GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1705
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2004
COMPULSORY REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGE
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has requested the Union Government for making registration of Hindu marriages mandatory; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K.VENKATAPATHY)

(a) Yes, sir.

(b) Sub-section (2) of section 8 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 enables every State Government to make rules making registration of Hindu Marriages compulsory in the State or in any part thereof, whether in all cases or in such cases as it may specify. As the subject matter `Marriage and divorce` falls under entry 5 of the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, it is considered appropriate to allow the State Governments to bring in the necessary changes if the conditions obtaining in the States allow such changes before any Parliamentary legislation could be considered. Some of the State Governments have made laws for uniform compulsory registration of marriages. However, the National Population Policy, 2000 has set the target of compulsory registration of marriaaes by 2010